

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-22 (Canceled).

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): An antibody  
which has a positive reactivity against cell lines U937 and K562 and  
which recognizes a polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ  
ID NO: 1, said polypeptide having pre-B cell growth-supporting ability.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The antibody of Claim 23 which is a monoclonal  
antibody.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The monoclonal antibody of Claim 24 which is  
IgM.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The antibody of Claim 24 which is produced by the  
hybridoma deposited under the accession number FERM BP-4433.

Claim 27 (Currently Amended): A hybridoma which produces a monoclonal  
antibody  
which has a positive reactivity against cell lines U937 and K562 and  
which recognizes a polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ  
ID NO: 1, said polypeptide having pre-B cell growth-supporting ability.

Application No. 09/828,217  
Reply to Office Action of May 18, 2005

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The hybridoma of claim 27, which produces an IgM monoclonal antibody.

Claim 29 (Currently Amended): The hybridoma of claim 27, deposited under accession number FERM BP-4433 (~~RS38~~).

30-32 (Cancelled)